

BARNETT, UNDERWOOD C.

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BARNETT, UNDERWOOD C.

Born at _____ Arkansas, _____ 18____ (about 1833)

son of _____ and _____

Married Laura Ellen Pennington (1835-69) a daughter of Eli G. and Julia Ann (Hood) Pennington at _____ on _____ 18____.

Came from California to southern Arizona in 1861; John F.

Pennington, who afterwards became his brother-in-law, was placer mining on the Hassayampa as early as July, 1863, and Barnett probably followed him there; on February 20, 1864, they joined with John W. Swilling, William Rank and Fellette G. Christie in recording six previously located mining claims of 200 feet each on the "Forest Rose lead situated on the easterly slope of the divide between Lynx Creek and the Hasseyamp, one of said claims being held by J. F. Pennington as a discovery claim."

Charles B. Genung, who was operating an arrastra near the Hassayampa River, stated that on February 13, 1864, Jack Pennington, who was camped with U. C. Barnett about 6 miles upstream, reported that the Apaches had taken their last horse and wanted help to recover it.

The Indians had taken a trail that led past our place and about 1½ miles to the east. Barnett followed on the trail and Pennington was to meet him at a prominent outcrop of quartzite that the trail passed by. When we got in sight of the big outcrop of rock, we could see Barnett about 400 yards back of the outcrop waving his hat and crouching down, which meant for us to keep as quiet as possible.

"When we got to Barnett, who had not moved from the place where we first saw him, he told us that he had seen a smoke on the opposite side of the big ledge before we came in sight, and supposed the Indians had made a camp there. It had been

threatening to storm for some **tine**, and by this time it was snowing pretty hard.

We at once set out to see what was behind the bluff, making as little noise as possible. When we got to the south end there they were in a little gulch among the thickest kind of brush. We opened fire on them, but our guns were covered with the snow that was falling hard and fast and we never knew what effect our shots had, only we got an old butcher knife, a lance, and bow with a quiver of arrows. The Indians had killed the horse and were cutting the flesh off the bones when we came upon them.

Listed, Territorial Census, April, 1864, 3d District (Yavapai County) age 31, single, occupation - miner, resident in Arizona 3 years, property valued at \$350; he must have given up mining and turned to farming on the Hassayampa since he *gave* his occupation as a ranchero when elected from Walnut Grove to represent Yavapai County in the 3rd Territorial Legislature which met in Prescott on October 3, 1866; the next year he was elected to the Legislature from Tucson and attended the session at Prescott from September 4 to October 7, 1867; the Prescott Arizona Miner of October 12 made this reference to him:

Hon. U. C. Barnett, a member of the Lower House of the Fourth Legislative Assembly, for Pima county, but formerly a resident of Yavapai county, sold his ranch last week, and on Tuesday last left with his family, in company with the Pima delegation, for Tucson, where we understand, he intends to reside. We hope Mr. Barnett will find Tucson more to his liking than Prescott, but we have our doubts - we have indeed. We wouldn't be surprised at seeing Mr. Barnett back here with his "Lares" and "Penates" next Spring.

The following was printed in the San Francisco Bulletin of January 10, 1870:

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Arizona Items - U. C. Barnett, a former legislator of Arizona from Pima and from Yavapai counties, died at Tubac, November 29, 1869, aged about 37 years.

The Prescott Arizona Miner in reporting his death stated:

The many friends of U. C. Barnett, will learn with sorrow that he departed this life, at Tubac, Pima county, Nov. 29, 1869. Deceased was well and favorably known all over the Territory. He was twice elected to the Legislature--once from this County, and once from Pima County--and served in the Legislatures of 1866-7. He formerly resided at Walnut Grove, in this County. He was a native of Arkansas, and aged about 37. He leaves a wife and child to mourn his loss, buffet with adverse circumstances, and maintain themselves in this cold-hearted world.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Farish, T.E. - History of Arizona, Vol. 4, pp. 44, 165, Vol. 5. p. 2.
 Kelly, G. H. - Legislative History, Arizona, 1926.
 W. W. Elliott & Co. - History of Arizona Territory, S.F. 1884, p. 309.
 Forbes, R.H. - The Pennington's Pioneers of Early Arizona, Tucson, 1919, pp. 35, 37.
 The Arizona Miner, Prescott, September 10 and October 12, 1867, 3:1.
 The Weekly Arizonian, Tucson, January 1, 1870, 3:1 (death of his wife on December 30, 1869).
 The Arizona Miner, Prescott, October 27, 1866, 1:3 (short biography); December 25, 1869, 3:1 (obituary).

WANTED

Any additional newspaper mention of him. ✓